

South-Carolina Weekly Museum, &c.

MARCH, 18, 1797.

For the SOUTH-CAROLINA WEEKLY MUSEUM, &c.

O N M O R A L S.

(The subject continued from page 265.)

WE have contemplated those immoral acts which incapacitate man for the discharge of those duties which he owes to society, which do not immediately aim at this point, but which, from their tendency, produce this effect. We now come to consider those which are not only attended with the evil consequences resulting from sensual gratification and indulgence, but aim directly at the existence of society, at the ties and obligations that are essentially necessary in all governments, societies, or institutions of community, and in which is implicated their very being: of this description are those acts done in direct contradiction to the express and positive laws of society; this is generally the second stage of this vice. After they have trespassed on those divine laws, plainly implied from the nature of things, by gratifying those appetites that the reason and virtue of man were intended to curb and correct, against which, the civil law has not extended its arm: they go on to those open and direct attacks, which touch the vitality of the community, trespassing upon, and wounding even to death, its most sacred and positive commands and institutions: thus having laboured in the field of vice and debauchery in a manner so inconsistent with all the duties of man, so big with injury, fatality and death

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to society in their remote but certain consequences, vice with age becoming more rank, the debauchee assumes a bolder step, and takes a more gigantic stride: After having reduced himself from affluence to beggary—after having spent, perhaps, a large estate raised by the honest industry of an ancestor, in debauchery of every description—after having been a buck, an whoremonger, a gamester, a duellist—after having, in the garb of a man of honor, committed a series of perjuries, breaches of faith, prostitutions of honor, of that honor which he affects to hold so sacred, and it is mere affectation, for our modern men of honor are the greatest rascals in society—after having been the base seducer of pure and tender innocence, and the foul assassin of unspotted virtue—after all these excesses, being tired of life, he either trespasses upon the rights of the divinity, and deprives himself of a life, over which he has no authority thus to tyrannize, or he severs the link of friendship, quarrels with a friend, and in attempting to murder to day the person who rested next to his heart but the day before; he receives the messenger of his dissolution and relieves the community of a curse; but unfortunately for the remaining members of it, he does not take with him that contagion which attends the example—that

that fever which generates it, which is as rapid, as devouring, as certain and invariable in its contagion as any plague that ever Providence, in its wrath, thought proper to visit mankind with—perhaps too, he leaves in death, the friend whose life he should have protected, robs society of a good member, government of a firm support—rends the heart of an affectionate wife, and renders a large and helpless family of children, suffering orphans.—Thus situated, the laws of the country are no protection to moral men, who would wish to spend the life God gave them, as God and nature direct, by forwarding the purposes of their creation, by promoting their own happiness, and that of their fellow members of the community. The better part of society find themselves subjected to all the evils of a state of nature, nay worse, the laws forbid them the exercise of those rights which nature has endowed them with; these they have surrendered to society; they claim the protection stipulated in consequence, but the laws as the effect of this immorality have lost their force, and become a mere dead letter. Can a people thus surrounded by hostility be happy, can confidence and love reign among men, when your bosom friend, e'er echo has ceased to resound his expressions of inviolable friendship, aims the instrument of death at your bosom. If the hero of this scene, should be of high rank in society, as he generally is, he will likely become the instrument of the perfidious arts of foreign enemies or domestic faction, and be the author of sedition, rebellion, discord, civil war, and every thing that can disorganize and turn government into anarchy, and order into Chaos, and thus, having acted the part of a Cataline to this stage, he is pre-

pared like that monster to perpetrate bloodshed, carnage, murder, rape and rapine, on his fellow-citizens; and all this, merely to enable him to gratify those desires, which make human nature as contemptible as some of the consequences of them make it to be abhorred. Society and government cannot resist these attacks, they must moulder away, and although men do not literally return to a state of nature, yet the effects flowing from that situation are felt by the members of this frail and embecile community, which has lost all that energy that it once possessed, perhaps, in an imminent degree, and feel these effects too, without possessing with them, the liberties and rights which would be attendant on them in the state in which nature first placed them. And let it not be said, that some systems of government are too good and perfect in their nature and structure to apprehend these consequences. A perfect government has been compared to a most perfect piece of machinery, possessing no unnecessary part to clogg or incumber it, but which, from the extreme perfection of it, in not having a single superfluous atom, would be, if it should loose any the smallest of its component parts, thrown into complete disorder & confusion, and rendered totally useless:—the comparison is a good one.—Morality is an essential part of a good government, and immorality is always ready to enervate, against which we ought to be guarded.—There is a certain degree of perfection in governments, beyond which, the history of nations proves, they cannot advance. When a government has progressed in perfection to this point, it gains, like the stone of Sisyphus, a progression to roll downwards. It is then that human exertions are most necessary to check
this

this inclination, and keep it at the point of perfection. A government very bad in itself, has within it the seeds of perfectibility, which vegetate that increase which attends all natural being, until it attains a certain point, when it again sinks as it were into non-entity, and then regenerates again. All the operations of nature are revolutionary—human affairs are the same—in the restraining and advancing of which, art has its effect. Culture and the aid of human invention can almost change nature, and make the exotic grow with spontaneous vigour; and with more ease we can anticipate nature and check its being in the same moment it begins to live. Then the exertions of man in progressing a nation to the point of happiness and perfection, and keeping it at that point are not vain—they are, on the contrary, morally certain. It appears, likewise, that good governments are liable to the encroachment of the vice of immorality as well as bad ones—they are more so—they, indeed, alone require the guards of human prudence and vigilance to keep them from declining, and being undermined by evils which assail them. Bad governments, as has been said, have a regenerating principle—good governments a propensity to decline—He then who has the happiness to live under a good government, should not cease in his vigilance; he should not be the less watchful, because he is extremely happy, but should guard his present situation with more tenacity; because the more happy he is, the more probable is a transition which will be proportionally distressing as his happiness was great. Americans then, as being in the possession of a good and happy system of government should prize it most highly; they should guard it with enthusiasm and the most ardent zeal.

As good members of it, they should endeavour to prevent, as far as they can, the vices of immorality—so injurious to society; so fatal to good political systems; they should view those who practice them as unwholesome and pernicious excrescences of the community; as preying upon the vitals of it, and planting in it the seeds of disease and death.

HUMANITAS.

THE FALSE ALARM;

A MORAL STORY.

(Continued from page 313.)

HE accordingly embarked with his protector, who liberally supplied him with every necessary for his voyage; and joining the British forces on the continent of America, he continued to serve there for two years, with unblemished reputation; his public conduct recommending him to the notice of his superior officers, and his private character procuring him universal regard and esteem. At the expiration of this time, general Harcourt, preparing to return to England, on account of his health, which had been impaired by a dangerous wound, which had never been completely cured, he obtained leave of absence for Mr. Mandeville; who was become so dear to him, that he could not bear to be deprived of his company, at a time when his spirits, which always appeared to labour under some particular weight, were peculiarly depressed from bodily infirmity, and the cheerful and enlivening conversation of his youthful and less affected brother in adversity, and his grateful and affectionate personal care, were so necessary to alleviate the distresses of his mind, and the pains of indisposition.

In the course of the voyage to England, after a night of unusual restlessness, during which he had been attended with the most watchful solicitude by his young companion and friend, general Harcourt took an opportunity of mingling with the tenderest expressions of approbation, some hints of the causes of his own mental uneasiness; and finding Mr. Mandeville eagerly, though diffidently, anxious for a more explicit communication, he gave him the following short sketch of his history:—

That he was the only son of a private gentleman of large fortune, whose fondness had prevented his parting with him, even for the purposes of education, which he received from a private tutor in his father's house, till he was of a proper age to be sent to the university—that he there contracted an intimacy with the son of a clergyman; and visiting with him at his father's, he fell in love with his friend's only sister: and, after offering her marriage privately, and engaging himself to her by the most solemn ties, she, in a moment of tenderness, surrendered to him that virtue which he was bound to protect—that his amour was very soon discovered by his father, who compelled him to accept a commission in a regiment then embarking for the East-Indies, where he had remained but little more than three years before he was informed that his wife (for so he had ever esteemed her) had paid the debt of nature, together with an infant son who had been born a few months after his departure—that the letters which conveyed this intelligence contained also an invitation to him to return, and he accordingly procured leave of absence from his regiment; but, on his arrival in England, found that his father had been dead some months;

and having now no attachment, he determined to pursue a military life; and purchasing superior rank in a regiment stationed in America, he took his passage for that continent in a vessel which carried several other passengers, and among them a young woman with whom he formed a connection, and who had brought him a daughter; but as he had great reason to disapprove the conduct of the mother, they had parted, and she had since married; though he had charged himself with the care of the child, who was now about seventeen, beautiful in her person, and of disposition truly amiable—that he had never got over the impression of his first love, nor found it possible to suppress an idea that the fruit of that unhappy affection had survived its unfortunate mother;—that he had, however, in vain, sought to discover his existence; and was now returning to England with a design to retire to the seat of his ancestors; and to spend the remainder of a life, which, from a combination of mental and corporeal injuries, seemed drawing to a period, in the enjoyment of those comforts which he might derive from the conversation of his darling daughter, and in providing for her such an establishment as might extend his care of her happiness even beyond the period of his dissolution, that on his arrival in England, he should spend some months in the metropolis, for the necessary purposes of arrangements, as to past and future concerns; and should immediately send for his Annabella, who had never yet known the name she was in future to bare, and whose education he had entrusted to a worthy & excellent woman at Northampton.

As the general advanced in his recital, the mind of Mandeville underwent the most agonizing sensations of curiosity and apprehension; but

but the conclusion of it removed all his doubts, and excited all his fears: to have found in the person of his beloved, the daughter and intended heiress of his benefactor, to aspire to whose hand would be equally absurd and ungrateful; yet, at the same time, to have found an additional reason for the increase, if possible, of an affection which could only be heightened by such discoveries, were circumstances so distressful, that an involuntary exclamation of "Good God!" escaped him the moment general Harcourt had finished his tale; who, turning his eyes to his young friend, was astonished to find him bathed in tears, and discovering the most violent emotions, though his attention only had appeared to be engaged during the former part of the recital.

It was impossible for him to avoid enquiring into the occasion of this very extraordinary appearance; and the general had no sooner asked Mr. Mandeville what particular part of his story had proved so extremely affecting to him, than he threw himself at the feet of his patron, and with anguish, which wrung the heart of the humane veteran, besought him to abandon the most unfortunate of men: who was not only destined to feel the sharpest pangs of misery himself; but, like a contagious disease, to communicate his wretchedness to those whose tenderness deserved from him such returns only as should be productive of pleasure and satisfaction. "But though you abandon me, Sir," continued the unhappy Mandeville, "condemn me not: my offence has been involuntary; nor when I loved the all perfect Annabella, did I know that she ought to have added to that name the additional one of Harcourt."

However this discovery might affect the general with surprize, it by

no means excited his anger; a passion of another kind was predominant in his mind. He paused for a few moments; and having then soothed the anguish of the afflicted Mandeville, by the tenderest assurances of unabated friendship, and undiminished esteem, he raised him from the floor, and besought him to leave him, that he might endeavour to calm the perturbation of his mind, and collect fortitude enough to reveal to him another secret, no less interesting to both than that which had just escaped his bosom.

But he did not keep the tortured Mandeville long in suspense: he soon summoned him to return to the cabin, and desired him to prepare for a communication, which would do violence to his love, but afford him an opportunity of contributing to the happiness of the object of his affection, by the performance of his duty in a very different capacity.

"My dear Mandeville," says the general, "you may remember my hinting to you my suspicion, that the offspring of my unfortunate connection, with my first and indeed only love, survived his unhappy mother. Though all my endeavours to ascertain this fact had proved fruitless, the moment I first saw you at Petersfield, a resemblance of my adored Charlotte struck me so forcibly, that it has been impossible for me to divest myself of the idea that you (tremble not my beloved Mandeville) are the son of whom I have so long been in search. Your manners, your disposition, strengthen the likeness; for, like her, you are mild, gentle, and inoffensive.—Yet one difficulty remains, which I am unable to get over;—that son, if alive, would be now twenty-six; and, according to your account of your age, it does not exceed twenty-two. Besides, you have mentioned

an uncle on the side of your father—can you lend any assistance to unravel this mysterious and important business?

(To be concluded in our next.)

For the WEEKLY MUSEUM, &c.

ANSWER to BENEDICT, the Married Man—(see page 297.)

“THAT no affections are so difficult to be retained as a husband’s,” we women are too well assured of.—But when it shall be ascertained what qualities are necessary, both to win a heart and keep it, we may, perhaps, have a chance to please some of you.

That cleanliness is next to godliness, and that it is an attention we owe ourselves, both in regard to health and pleasure, no one has ever attempted to deny. But that an amiable wife, whose whole soul (by his own description) seems to be entirely absorbed in himself, should lay every valuable qualification aside, and with the ideas of a Dean Swift, talk of dirty hands and a greasy face! Alas! Mr. Benedict, how many poor married men of this age, would gladly make an exchange with thee.

Contrast this domestic household dove with the frippery notions of a thorough-bred coquette—see her, instead of laying aside dress, more attentive to it than ever—see her at the toilet, not only to adorn those charms which nature has given, but to borrow those she never intended: Her husband, her children neglected—away she flies to change your money—enters a new list in every store—and is just as solicitous to catch the eye of every *petit-maitre*, as your own—then her dear delightful evenings come on, where at loo

or quadrille, she empties your purse of fifty guineas. Go thy ways, Benedict, remember thou art on the earthly side of perfection, wash her face with the milk of good-nature, dry her tears with reciprocal affection, kiss her with cordiality: and when thou hast so done, think with how much more ease thou hast taken the grease from her face, than thou couldst have done the canker from a contaminated mind: Turn over a new leaf in your book at home, and you will find these words—

“TO BEAR, and FORBEAR.”

The MERIT of the FAIR SEX considered.

THOSE who aim at panegyric, are wont to assemble a throng of glittering ideas, and then, with great exactness, cloath them with all the elegance of language in order to their making the most magnificent figure, when they come abroad in the world. So copious a subject as the praises of the fair, may, in the opinion of my readers, lay me under great difficulties in this respect. Every man of good understanding, and fine sense, is in pain for one who has undertaken so hard a task: hard, indeed, to me, who, from many years study of the sex, have discovered so many perfections in them, as scarce as many more years would afford me time to express. However, not to disappoint your readers, or myself, by foregoing that pleasure I feel in doing justice to the most amiable part of the creation, I will indulge the natural propensity I have to their service, and paint, though it be but in miniature, the excellencies they possess, and the accomplishments which, by reflection, they bestow.

Those who, from wrong ideas of things, have forced themselves into a dislike

a dislike of the sex, will be apt to cry out, Where would this fellow run? Has he so long studied women, and does he not know what numbers of affected prudes, gay coquettes, and giddy impertinents, there are amongst them?—Alas! gentlemen, what mistakes are these? How will you be surprized if I prove to you, that you are in the same sentiments with me, and that you could not have so warm resentments at these peccadilloes, if you did not think the ladies more than mortal?

Are the faults you would pass by in a friend, and smile at in an enemy, crimes of so deep a dye in the fair, as not to be forgiven? And can this flow from any other principle, than a persuasion, that they are more perfect in their nature than we, and their guilt the greater therefore, in departing, even in the smallest degree, from that perfection? Or can there be a greater honor to the sex, than this dignity, which even their enemies allow them to say, "Truth, virtue, and women, owe less to their friends, than to their foes;" since the vicious, in both cases, charge their own want of taste on the weakness of human nature, pursue grosser pleasures because they are at hand, and neglect the more refined, as things of which their capacities afford them no ideas.

Mr. Dryden, who knew human nature, perhaps, as well as any man who ever studied it, has given us a just picture of the force of female charms, in the story of Cymon and Iphigenia. He paints in Cymon a soul buried in a confusion of ideas, informed with so little fire, as scarce to struggle under the load, or afford any glimmerings of sense. In this condition, he represents him struck with the rays of Iphigenia's beauty: kindled by them, his mind exerts its powers, his intellectual

faculties seem to awake; and that uncouth ferocity of manners, by which he had hitherto been distinguished, gave way to an obliging behaviour, the natural effect of love.

The moral of this fable is a truth which can never be inculcated too much. It is to the fair sex we owe the most shining qualities of which ours is master; as the ancients insinuated with their usual address, by painting both the virtues and graces as females. Men of true taste feel a natural complaisance for women when they converse with them, and fall, without knowing it, upon every art of pleasing; which is the disposition at once the most grateful to others, and the most satisfactory to ourselves. An intimate acquaintance with the other sex, fixes this compliance into a habit, and that habit is the very essence of politeness.

Nay, I presume to say, politeness can be no other way attained.—Books may furnish us with right ideas, experience may improve our judgments, but it is the acquaintance of the ladies only, which can bestow that easiness of address, whereby the fine gentleman is distinguished from the scholar and the man of business.

There is a certain constitutional pride in men, which hinders their yielding in point of knowledge, honor, or virtue to one another: this immediately forsakes us at the sight of woman: and the being accustomed to submit to the ladies, gives a new turn to our ideas, and opens a path to reason, which she had not trod before; things appear in another light, and that degree of complacency seems now a virtue, which heretofore we regarded as a meanness.

I have dwelt the longer on the charms of the sex, arising from the perfection visible in their exterior
composition

composition, because there is the strongest analogy between them, and the excellencies which, from a nicer enquiry, we discover in the minds of the fair. As they are distinguished from the robust make of man by that delicacy, expressed by nature in their form; so the severity of masculine sense is softened by a sweetness peculiar to the female soul. A native capacity of pleasing attends them through every circumstance of life, and what we improperly call, the weakness of the sex, gives them a superiority unattainable by force.

The fable of the North-wind and the sun contending to make the man throw off his cloak, is not an improper picture of the specific difference between the powers of either sex. The blustering fierceness of the former, instead of producing the effect at which it aimed, made the fellow but wrap himself up the closer; yet no sooner did the sun-beams play, than that which before protected, became now an incumbrance.

Just so, that pride which makes us tenacious in disputes between man and man, when applied to the ladies, inspires us with an eagerness not to contend, but to obey.

To speak sincerely and philosophically, women seem designed by providence to spread the same splendor and cheerfulness through the intellectual æconomy, that the celestial bodies diffuse over the material part of the creation. Without them, we might, indeed, contend, destroy, and triumph over one another: fraud and force would divide the world between them, and we should pass our lives, like slaves, in continual toil, without the prospect of pleasure or relaxation.

It is the conversation of women that gives a proper bias to our inclinations, and, by abating the ferocity of our passions, engages us to that gentleness of deportment, which

we stile humanity. The tenderness we have for them softens the ruggedness of our own nature, and the virtues we put on to make the better figure in their eyes, keep us in humour with ourselves.

I speak it without affectation or vanity, that no man has applied more assiduously than myself to the study of the fair sex, and I aver it with the greatest simplicity of heart, that I have not only found the most engaging and most amiable, but also the most generous and most heroic qualities, among the ladies; and that I have discovered more of candor, disinterestedness and fervor in their friendships, than in those of our own sex, though I have been very careful, and particularly happy in the choice of my acquaintance.

For the WEEKLY MUSEUM, &c.

THOUGHTS

On the most eligible system of establishing a NATIONAL UNIVERSITY, in the City of Washington, in the United States of America.

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No. III.

On the Foundation of the University.

THE education of youth in the various branches of literature and science, is certainly essential to the prosperity of our commonwealth, and it should be the first care of parents, as well as the guardians of our country, to do every thing in their power, to establish the means of acquiring the best education on the most permanent foundation.

The study of language and grammar, of correct and elegant writing, of logic, rhetoric and philosophy, of poetry and the mathematics (which are the principal subjects of a learned

a learned education) wonderfully expands and embellishes the mind, furnishes sources of pleasure, refines taste, and produces the most happy effects, in the life and manners of mankind.

A neglect, therefore, of an establishment of this nature, would be highly injurious to the nation in general, and a degradation to her in the eyes of other nations; and would be productive of such ignorance, as would ultimately terminate in the subversion of the rights and liberties of Americans.

What I would understand by the foundation is—1st. The Fund—2dly, the Government—3dly, the Place and Building—4thly, the Professors.

The fund may be raised various ways, for the establishment. I shall mention what just suggests itself, leaving the exact system to those, whose province it is to establish the institution. There is one species of property which pays nothing towards the success of the nation, namely, *the stock in the funds of the United States*! The planter is to pay a land tax for a worthless pine-barren, a negro tax for each slave—the householder must pay for town lots, with their improvements! that is, not only for the estate, but for the industry (*which I conceive to be very impolitic in our federal government, as no bar should be put against industry*)—the merchant a duty on imports and exports. Why then should not the above species of property bear a part of so necessary an establishment. Is it, that the present proprietors of indents which they have funded, did not procure them at a reduced price; or that this property is not under the protection of the laws, or that there is not more than twenty per cent. per annum, derived to the proprietors, for their first advance for said pro-

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perty? Or, that this property belongs principally to our *lawmakers*? Each state according to its riches or population, may furnish a certain sum out of the civil list, or otherwise, as may be determined by the respective state legislators. And voluntary donations may be given by subscription, or bequeathed by will to the institution.

The legislature of the *United States*, should be the patrons and promoters of the university in a primary sense, and in a collective view but as it is to be, or ought to be, national, there ought to be, in my view, sixteen directors chosen out of *both* houses of congress, one director from each state, to have from year to year, the whole superintendence and management of the institution; a majority of whom may form a quorum, and conduct matters, and report to congress annually, the progress and procedure of the University.

An election of members by ballot, in civil or political cases, where a number of candidates of nearly equal talents may offer themselves, is, I acknowledge, the most congenial system to republican principles of equality; but as this institution requires men of the first talents, and as every good honest-hearted patriotic legislator is not a man of erudition; I would recommend, that the directors be chosen by the president and vice-president of the United States, in union; then we may expect that the *literati* of the United States would be concentrated in one body at the head of our University. A choice made by *Mr. Adams* and *Mr. Jefferson*, by common consent, could not fail of having the end answered. The persons chosen as directors being supported by their constituents, as *federal legislators* should be governed by *Cicero's* principles. "*Honos alere ars; omnisque*

nos

nos incendi ad studium gloria.” * No additional salary then, need be given to gentlemen who had a competency to support them, and were governed by the honor conferred on them in their appointment, and the glory resulting from the establishment to the nation in general. Let men of literary talents be invited from all nations, and the majority of the directors be empowered to chuse a *President, Vice-President, and two associates* to enforce the whole discipline and laws of the University; to inspect the progress of education, and to confer degrees on approved students, in the various branches of science.

The place is known to be the city of Washington, in the state of Maryland, and the situation to be as eligible as any in the United States.

The building was recommended to be, in a former number, three sides of an oblong square, the magnitude to be proportioned to the necessity of the institution.

Amid this superb collection let there be one place of worship, to be called the **FEDERAL CHURCH**, to have regular worship on every Sunday, by some proper preacher, chosen from year to year by the majority of the directors; but, at the same time, let it be opened continually, when not occupied in the regular way, to every denomination of Christian ministers. Then jealousies will not subsist amongst the various professors of religion who may contribute to the support of the institution.

It is not possible to ascertain the immediate number of professors who may be required in an institution of this nature; but, as I do not think it necessary to have the same branches

* *Honor nourishes arts; and we are all encouraged to our studies by glory.*

of education taught in any *two colleges* of the university, by a select choice; and admitting the person chosen to have a competent salary—one professor-general, with as many teachers and fellows as may be requisite, may be much more simple, & congenial to an infant institution, than that system practiced in the universities of *Cambridge, Oxford, Paris, Leyden, Edinburgh, or Dublin*. By uniting men of the most extensive knowledge, with good œconomy, in a plan of this nature, every useful end can be answered; and America will shine as a star of the first magnitude among the cultivated nations of the earth.

WHIMSICAL ANECDOTE.

The cardinal de Billay, to whom Rabelais was a domestic physician, being troubled with a hypochondriac disorder, it was resolved by the skillful gentlemen of the faculty, in a consultation, that an opening decoction should be prepared without delay for his eminence. Upon this Rabelais takes himself away, leaving the junto to prate themselves into a sweat for higher fees, orders a huge fire in the yard, and one of the largest kettles: into that kettle, brimful of water, he threw all the keys he could find or borrow; then stripping himself to his doublet, fell to stirring them about with all the anxiety of a cook, lest they should not boil well. The doctors, at their coming down, surprised at such an apparatus, and asking the meaning of Rabelais' diligence, he made the following reply to them: I am about *your* prescription, gentlemen; keys are certainly the best *openers* in the world; and if you are not satisfied with what I have done, I will dispatch a messenger to the arsenal for a dozen of battering *cannon*.

P O E T R Y.

P O E T R Y.

SELECTED.

THE CHURCH YARD.

AN ODE.

Quicumque es—
Victor, nec longum lætabere; te quoque fata
Prospectant paria, atque eadem mox arva tene-
bis. *Virgil.*

VAIN wordly cares begone! your calls
 forbear,
 Nor dare to whisper in my ear;
 While in this solemn, this expressive scene
 I muse—and view the fleeting state
 Of mortal beings, doom'd to fate,
 And joys, or woes, eternal and unseen.

Behold! where lie the scatter'd dead,
 Their bloom decay'd, and all their beauty
 lost;
 In silent shades they rest,
 Unaw'd by fear, nor by misfortunes crost:
 Their mental faculties are fled;
 No more shall love or hatred fire their breast.

The tender parent, the obliging friend,
 No more shall greet our ravish'd sight,
 With them no more those pleasing hours
 we spend,
 Form'd for our service and delight:
 Their busy passions cease to move,
 Lost to each sense of joy, or love;
 Darkness and death reign in their drear
 abode,
 And shiv'ring mortals fear to tread the road.

The blooming youth, the loveliest maid,
 Whose beauties once could charm,
 And fiercest rage disarm,
 In the dark womb of earth are laid;
 "Imperious death directs the ebon lance,
 "Peoples great Henry's tomb, and leads up
 Holben's dance."

The wretch worn out with grief and care,
 Rests free from each, beneath the weed-
 grown pile,

And finds a constant refuge there,
 From ev'ry foe, each fatal snare,
 From cruelty, from fear, despair, and toil.

The rich, the noble, and the great,
 As well as burthen'd vassals, must
 Yield to the will of adverse fate,
 Or soon, or late,
 And mingle with the dust.

When Death, pale messenger, appears
 In awful form, and dread array,
 Our feeble dust his livery wears,
 And nature droops, and dies away:
 Nor pow'r, nor force, withstand
 His cruel, his insatiate hand;
 Who dare with this strong enemy engage?
 Or with him the unequal combat wage?

The harden'd wretch, who walks secure,
 The path where sinners go,
 Shall everlasting woes endure,
 And pain and sorrow know;
 Death, and the grave, ere long will be his
 doom,
 And black despair shall bear his spirit home.

Thrice happy man, whom truth inspires,
 Virtue directs, and emulation fires;
 Whose steady soul is fix'd on things sublime,
 And fears to mingle with the vain,
 The wicked and prophane,
 Who wantonly abuse their time:
 Supremely blest, his tongue inspir'd, may
 sing,
 "Where is thy vict'ry Grave? Death!
 where thy sting?"

That awful day when nature shall expire,
 And sink beneath the gen'ral fire,
 Ere long will be reveal'd:
 Then will the slumb'ring dead awake,
 Nor longer lie conceal'd;
 The solemn trumpet's sound
 Shall burst the tombs, and rend the skies,
 While deathless souls to judgment rise,
 And final conflagration reigns around.

The following piece is taken from a collection of old ballads, published by Mr. Perry, and is said to be translated from the Spanish.

GENTLE river, gentle river,
Lo thy streams are stain'd with gore;
Many a brave and noble captain
Floats along thy willow'd shore.

All beside thy limpid waters,
All beside thy sands so bright,
Moorish chiefs and Christian warriors
Join'd in fierce and mortal fight.

Lords, and dukes, and noble princes,
On thy fatal banks were slain:
Fatal banks, that gave to slaughter
All the pride and flower of Spain.

There the hero, brave Alonzo,
Full of wounds and glory died:
There the fearless Urdiales
Fell a victim by his side.

Lo! where yonder Don Saavedra
Thro' the squadrons flow retires;
Proud Seville, his native city,
Proud Seville his worth admires.

Cloze behind a renegado
Loudly shouts with taunting cry;
Yield thee, yield thee, Don Saavedra,
Dost thou from the battle fly?

Well I know thee, haughty Christian,
Long I liv'd beneath thy roof;
Oft I've in the lists of glory
Seen thee win the prize of proof.

Well I know thy aged parents,
Well thy blooming bride I know;
Seven years I was thy captive,
Seven years of pain and woe.

May our prophet grant my wishes,
Haughty chief, thou shalt be mine:
Thou shalt drink that cup of sorrow,
Which I drank when I was thine.

Like a lion turns the warrior,
Back he sends an angry glare:
Whizzing came the Moorish javelin,
Vainly whizzing thro' the air.

Back the hero, full of fury,
Sent a deep and mortal wound:
Instant sunk the Renegado,
Mute and lifeless on the ground.

With a thousand Moors furrounded,
Brave Saavedra stands at bay:
Wearied out, but never daunted,
Cold at length the warrior lay.

Near him fighting great Alonzo
Stout resists the Paynim bands;
From his slaughter'd steed-dismounted,
Firm intrench'd behind him stands.

Furious press the hostile squadrons,
Furious he repels their rage;
Loss of blood at length enfeebles:
Who can war with thousands wage?

Where yon rock the plain o'er shadows,
Close beneath its foot retir'd,
Fainting sunk the bleeding hero,
And without a groan expir'd.

SONNET.

THIS hoary labyrinth, the wreck of time,
Solicitous with timid step I tread,
Scale the stern battlement, or vent'rous climb
Where the sent watchtower bows its
grassy head;
These dark damp caverns breathe mysterious
dread;
Haply still foul with tinct of ancient
crime;
Methinks, some spirit of th' ennobl'd dead,
High-bosom'd maid, or warrior chief
sublime,
Haunts them! The flappings of the heavy
bird
Imagin'd warnings fearfully impart,
And the dull breeze below that feebly stirr'd,
Seem'd the deep breathing of an o'er-
charg'd heart!
Proud tower! thy halls now stable the lean
herd,
And musing Mercy smiles that such thou
art!

From Seneca.

WHATE'ER, O Time, thy ravage
can withstand?
All soon must yield to thy destructive hand.
The seas will waste, the Heav'ns in smoke
decay,
Rocks fall to dust, and mountains melt away.
To die is Nature's law to all mankind,
The earth will melt, and "leave no wreck
behind!"

AMICUS.

FOREIGN

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

STATE PAPERS.

[*The following memorial, respecting Spain and Holland, should have took its place immediately after that relative to the principal objects of restitution, &c. (for which, see page 317) but was omitted in our last for want of room.*]

Confidential Memorial on the peace with Spain and Holland.

The allies of France not having hitherto expressed any desire or disposition to treat with the king, his majesty might have forborne to enter into any detail on their account; but in order to avoid any details prejudicial to the great object which the king has in view, and to accelerate the work of a general peace, his majesty will not refuse to explain himself, in the first instance, on the points which concern those powers. If, then, the Catholic king should desire to be comprehended in this negotiation, or to be allowed to accede to the definitive treaty, this would meet with no obstacle on the part of his majesty. Nothing having hitherto been conquered by either of the two sovereigns from the other, no other point could, at the present moment, come into question but that of the re-establishment of peace, simply, and without any restitution or compensation whatever, except such as might possibly result from the application of the principle declared at the end of the fourth article of the memorial already delivered to the minister for foreign affairs.

But if, during the negotiation, any alteration shall take place in the state of things in this respect, it will then be proper to agree upon the restitutions and compensations to be made on each side.

With regard to the republic of the United Provinces, his Britannic majesty and his allies find themselves too nearly interested in the political situation of those provinces to be able to consent, in their favour, to the re-establishment of the *status ante bellum* as with respect to territorial possessions, unless France could, on her part, reinstate them in all respects in the same political situation in which they stood before the war.

If at least it were possible to re-establish in those provinces, agreeable to what is believed to be the wish of a great majority of the inhabitants, their ancient constitution and form of government, his majesty might then be disposed to relax, in their favour, from a very considerable part of the conditions on which the present state of things obliges him to insist.

But if, on the contrary, it is with the republic of Holland, in its present state, that their Britannic and imperial majesties will have to treat, they will feel themselves obliged to seek in territorial acquisitions, those compensations, and that security, which such a state of things will have rendered indispensable to them.

Restitutions of any kind, in favor of Holland could in that case be admitted, in so far only as they shall be compensated by arrangements calculated to contribute to the security of the Austrian Netherlands. The means of accomplishing this object will be found in the cessions which France has exacted in her treaty of peace with Holland, and the possession of which by that power would in any case be absolutely incompatible with the security of the Austrian Netherlands in the hands of his imperial majesty.

It is on these principles that his Britannic majesty would be ready to treat for the re-establishment of peace with the republic of Holland

in its present state. The details of such a discussion must necessarily lead to the consideration of what would be due to the interest and the rights of the house of Orange.

—
Paris, Dec. 20, 1796.

MY LORD,

Mr. Ellis returned here from London on Thursday last, the 14th instant, at five P. M. and delivered to me the dispatches, No. 11 and 12, with which he was charged by your lordship.

Although nothing can be clearer, more ably drawn up, or more satisfactory than the instructions they contain, yet as it was of the last importance that I should be completely master of the subject before I saw the French minister, I delayed asking for a conference till late on Friday evening, with a view that it should not take place till Saturday morning.

He appointed the hour of eleven A. M. on that day, and it was near one before we parted. Although what is said by M. Delacroix before he has communicated with the directory cannot be considered as officially binding, and probably may, in the event, be very different from what I shall hear when he speaks to me in their name, yet as it is impossible they should not nearly conjecture the nature of the overtures I should make, and of, course be prepared in some degree for them, it is material that your lordship should be accurately acquainted with the first impressions they appear to make on M. Delacroix.

I prefaced what I had to communicate with saying, that I now came authorized to enter with him into deliberations upon one of the most important subjects that perhaps ever was brought into discussion; that its magnitude forbade all finess, excluded all prevarication, suspend-

ed all prejudices, and that as I had it in command to speak and act with freedom and truth, I expected that he, on his part, would consider these as the only means which could or ought to be employed, if he wished to see a negotiation, in which the happiness of millions was involved, terminate successfully: that, for greater precision, and with a view to be clearly understood in what I was about to propose, I would give him a confidential memorial, accompanied by an official note, both which, when he had perused them, would speak for themselves. The memorial contained the conditions, on the accomplishment of which his majesty considered the restoration of peace to depend. The note was expressive of his majesty's readiness to enter into any explanation required by the directory on the subject, or to receive any *contre projet*, resting on the same basis, which the directory might be disposed to give in: that, moreover, I did not hesitate declaring to him, in conformity to the principles which I had laid down, and from which I certainly never should depart at any period of the negotiation, that I was prepared to answer any questions, explain and elucidate any points, on which it was possible to foresee that doubts or misconceptions could arise on the consideration of these papers. And having said thus much, I had only to remark, that I believed, in no similar negotiation which had ever taken place, any minister was authorized, in the first instance, to go so fully into the discussion as I now was: that I was sure neither the truth of this remark, nor the manifest conclusion to be drawn from it, would escape M. Delacroix's observation.

I then put the two papers into his hands. He began by reading the note, on which, of course, he could only

only express satisfaction. After perusing the confidential memorial, with all the attention it deserved, he, after a short pause, said, that it appeared to him to be liable to insurmountable objections: that it seemed to him to require much more than it conceded, and, in the event not to leave France in a situation of proportional greatness to the powers of Europe. He said, the act of their constitution, according to the manner in which it was interpreted by the best publicists (and this phrase is worthy remark) made it impossible for the republic to do what we required. The Austrian Netherlands were annexed to it; they could not be disposed of without singeing the nation into all the confusion which must follow a convocation of the primary assemblies; and he said he was rather surprised that Great-Britain should bring this forward as the governing condition of the treaty, since he thought he had, in some of our late conversations, fully explained the nature of their constitution to me. I replied, that every thing I had heard from him on this point was perfectly in my recollection, as it probably was in his, that though I had listened to him with that attention I always afforded to every thing he said, yet I had never made him any sort of reply, and had neither admitted nor controverted his opinion: That although I believed I could easily disprove this opinion from the spirit of the French constitution itself; yet the discussion of that constitution was perfectly foreign to the object of my mission; since, even allowing his two positions, viz. that the retrocession of the Austrian Netherlands was incompatible with their laws, and that we ought to have known that before hand; yet that there existed a *droit public* in Europe, paramount to any *droit public* they

might think proper to establish within their own dominions; and that if their constitution was publicly known, the treaties existing between his majesty and the emperor were at least equally public, and in these it was clearly and distinctly announced, that the two contracting parties reciprocally promise not to lay down their arms without the restitution of all the dominions, territories, &c. which may have belonged to either of them before the war: that the date of this stipulation was previous to their annexing the Austrian Netherlands to France, and the notoriety of this ought, at the very moment when they had passed that law, to have convinced them, that, if adhered to, it must prove an insurmountable obstacle to peace. I applied his maxim to the West-India islands, and to the settlements in the East-Indies; and asked him, whether it was expected that we were to wave our right of possession, and be required still to consider them as integral parts of the French republic which must be restored, and on which no value was to be set in the balance of compensation?

I also stated the possible case of France having lost part of what she deemed her integral dominions, instead of having added to them in the course of the war, and whether then, under the apprehension of still greater losses, the government, as it was now composed, should consider itself as not vested with powers sufficient to save their country from the impending danger, by making peace on the conditions of sacrificing a portion of their dominions to save the remainder? M. Delacroix said, this was stating a case of necessity, and such a mode of reasoning did not attach to the present circumstances. I really admitted the first part of this proposition, but contended

tended; that if the power existed in a case of necessity, it equally existed in all others, and particularly in the case before us, since he himself had repeatedly told me, that peace was what this country and its government wished for, and even wanted.

M. Delacroix, in reply, shifted his ground, and by a string of arguments founded on premises calculated for this purpose, attempted to prove, that, from the relative situation of the adjacent countries, the present government of France would be reprehensible in the extreme, and deserve impeachment, if they ever permitted the Netherlands to be separated from their dominions; that by the partition of Poland, Russia, Austria, and Prussia had increased their power to a most formidable degree; that England, by its conquests, and by the activity and judgment with which it governed its colonies, had doubled its strength.

Your Indian empire alone, said M. Delacroix with vehemence, has enabled you to subsidize all the powers of Europe against us, and your monopoly of trade has put you in possession of a fund of inexhaustible wealth. His words were, "Votre empire dans l'Inde vous a fourni les moyens de salarier toutes les Puissances contre nous, et vous avez accaparé le commerce de manière que toutes les richesses du monde se versent dans vos coffres."

From the necessity that France should keep the Netherlands and the left bank of the Rhine for the purpose of preserving its relative situation in Europe, he passed to the advantages which he contended would result to the other powers by such an addition to the French dominions. Belgium (to use his word) by belonging to France, would remove what had been the source of all wars for two centuries past; and the

Rhine being the natural boundary of France, would ensure the tranquillity of Europe for two centuries to come. I did not feel it necessary to combat this preposterous doctrine; I contented myself with reminding him of what he had said to me in one of our last conferences, when he made a comparison of the weakness of France under its monarchs, and its strength and vigor under its republican form of government. "Nous ne sommes plus dans la decrepitude de la France monarchique, mais dans toute la force d'une république adolescente," was his expression, and I inferred from this, according to his own reasoning, that the force and power France had acquired by its change of government, was much greater than it could derive from any acquisition of territory; and that it followed, if France, when under a regal form of government, was a very just and constant object of attention, not to say of jealousy, to the other powers of Europe, France (admitting this axiom) was a much more reasonable object of jealousy and attention under its present constitution than it ever had yet been, and that no addition to its dominions could be seen by its neighbors but under impressions of alarm for their own future safety, and for the general tranquility of Europe. M. Delacroix's answer to this was so remarkable, that I must beg leave to insert it in what I believe to be nearly his own words—"Dans le tems révolutionnaire, tout ce que vous dites, my lord, étoit vrai—rien n'égalait notre puissance; mais ce tems n'existe plus. Nous ne pouvons plus lever la nation en masse pour voler au secours de la Patrie en danger. Nous ne pouvons plus engager nos concitoyens d'ouvrir leurs poches pour le verser dans le trésor national, et de se oriver même

même du nécessaire pour se bien de la chose publique." And he ended, by saying, that the French republic, when at peace, necessarily must become the most quiet & pacific power of Europe. I only observed, that in this case, the passage of the republic, from youth to decrepitude, had been very sudden; but that still I never could admit that it could be a matter of indifference to its neighbors, much less a necessary security to itself, to acquire such a very extensive addition to its frontiers as that it had hinted at.

This led mons. Delacroix to talk of offering an equivalent to the emperor for the Austrian Netherlands; and it was to be found, according to his plan, in the secularization of the three ecclesiastical electorates, and several bishoprics in Germany and in Italy.

He talked upon this subject as one very familiar to him, and on which his thoughts had been frequently employed.

He spoke of making new electors, and named, probably, with a view to render his scheme more palatable, the stadtholder, the dukes of Brunswick and Wurtemberg as persons proper to replace the three ecclesiastical electors which were to be reformed.

It would be making an ill use of your lordship's time to endeavour to repeat to you all he said on this subject; it went in substance (as he himself confessed) to the total subversion of the present constitution of the Germanic body; and as it militated directly against the principles which both his majesty and the emperor laid down so distinctly, as the basis of the peace to be made for the Empire, I contented myself with reminding him of this circumstance, particularly as it is impossible to discuss this point with any propriety

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till his imperial majesty becomes a party to the negotiation. I took this opportunity of hinting, that if on all the other points France agreed to the proposals now made, it would not be impossible that some increase of territory might be ceded to her on the Germanic side of her frontiers, and that this, in addition to the Dutchy of Savoy, Nice & Avignon, would be a very great acquisition of strength and power. Monsieur Delacroix here again reverted to the constitution, and said, that these countries were already constitutionally annexed to France. I replied that it was impossible, in the negotiation which we were beginning, for the other powers to take it up from any period but that which immediately preceded the war, and that any acquisition or diminution of territory which had taken place among the belligerent powers since it first broke out, must necessarily become subject matter for negotiation, and be balanced against each other in the final arrangement of a general peace. "You then persist," said M. Delacroix, "in applying this principle to Belgium?" I answered, "most certainly; and I should not deal fairly with you if I hesitated to declare, in the outset of our negotiation, that on this point you must entertain no expectation that his majesty will relax, or ever consent to see the Netherlands remain a part of France."

M. Delacroix replied, he saw no prospect, in this case, of our ideas ever meeting, and he despaired of the success of the negotiation. He returned again, however, to his idea of a possible equivalent to be found for the emperor; but as all he proposed was the alienation or dismemberment of countries not belonging to France, even by conquest, I did not consider it as deserving attention, and it is certainly
not

not worth repeating to your lordship.

I need not observe that all the equivalents proposed, however inadequate to the exchange, were offered as a return for our consent that the Netherlands should remain part of France; of course, the admitting them in any shape would have been in direct contradiction to my instructions.

M. Delacroix touched very slightly on Italy, and the course of our conversation did not bring this part of the subject more into discussion.

I must add, that whenever I mentioned the restoration of the Netherlands to the emperor, I always took care it should be understood that these were to be accompanied by such further cessions as should form a competent line of defence, and that France could not be permitted to keep possession of all the intermediate country to the Rhine; and I particularly dwelt on this point, when I held out the possibility of admitting an extension of the limits of France on the side of Germany. But as the French minister no less strenuously opposed the restitution of the Netherlands to the emperor, than I tenaciously insisted upon it, the further extension of my claim could not of course become a subject of argument.

I believe I have now, with a tolerable degree of accuracy, informed your lordship of all that the French minister said on my opening myself to him on that part of my instructions which more immediately relates to peace between Great-Britain, his imperial majesty, and France. It remains with me to inform your lordship what passed between us on the subject of our respective allies.

On the articles reserving a right to the court of St. Peterburgh, and to that of Lisbon, to accede to the

treaty of peace on the strict *status a te bellum*, the French minister made no other remark than mentioning the allies of the republic, and by enquiring whether I was prepared to say any thing relative to their interests, which certainly the republic could never abandon. This afforded me the opportunity of giving in the confidential memorial relative to Spain and Holland, and I prefaced it by repeating to him the substance of the first part of your lordship's No. 12.

Although I had touched upon the subject of the Spanish part of St. Domingo, when I had been speaking to M. Delacroix on the peace with France, yet, as it did not become a matter of discussion between us till I came to mention the peace with Spain, I thought it better to place all that passed on the subject, in this part of my dispatch; it was the only part on which he entered, but I by no means infer from his not bringing forward some claims for Spain, that we are not to hear of any in the course of the negotiation; on the contrary, I have little doubt that many, and most of them inadmissible, will be made before it can end. He, however, was silent on them at this moment, and confined all he had to say in combating the idea that Spain was bound by the treaty of Utrecht not to alienate her possessions in America. I had the article copied in my pocket, and I read it to him. He confessed it was clear and explicit, but that circumstances had so materially altered since the year 1713, that engagements made then ought not to be considered as in force now. I said that the spirit of the article itself went to provide for distant contingencies, not for what was expected to happen at or near the time when the treaty was made; and that it was because the altera-
tion

tion of circumstances he alluded to was foreseen as possible that the clause was inserted; and that if Spain paid any regard to the faith of treaties, she must consider herself as no less strictly bound by this clause now, than at the moment when it was drawn up.

I went on by saying, that it did not, however, appear quite impossible that this point might be settled without much difficulty; and that means might be devised that his Catholic majesty should not break his faith, and both England and France be equally satisfied. I then held out to him, but in general terms, that either Spain might regain her part of St. Domingo, by making some considerable cession to Great Britain and France, as the price of peace, or that, in return for leaving the whole of St. Domingo to France, we should retain either Martinico, or St. Lucia and Tobago. M. Delacroix listened with a degree of attention to these proposals, but he was fearful of committing himself by any expression of approbation, and he dismissed the subject of the court of Madrid by observing, that France never would forsake the interests of its allies.

Our conversation on those of its other ally, Holland, was much longer, as the wording of the memorial inevitably led at once deep into the subject.

M. Delacroix affected to treat any deviation from the treaty of peace concluded between France and that country, or any restoration of territories acquired under that treaty to France, as quite impracticable. He treated as equally impracticable any attempt at restoring the ancient form of government in the seven United Provinces. He talked with an air of triumph of the establishment of a national con-

vention at the Hague, and with an affectation of feeling, that by it the cause of freedom had extended itself over such a large number of people. He however was ready to confess, that from the great losses the Dutch republic had sustained in its colonies, and particularly from the weak manner in which they had defended them, it could not be expected that his majesty would consent to a full and complete restitution of them, and that it was reasonable that some should be sacrificed; and he asked me if I could inform him how far our views extended on this point? —I said I had reason to believe that what his majesty would require, would be possessions and settlements which would not add either to the power or wealth of our Indian dominions, but only tend to secure to us their safe and unmolested possession. You mean, by this, said M. Delacroix, the Cape and Trincomale? I said, they certainly came under that description; and I saw little prospect of their being restored to the Dutch. M. Delacroix launched forth on this into a most laboured dissertation on the value of the Cape of Good Hope, which he did not consider at all as a *port de relache*, but as a possession which, in our hands, would become one of the most fertile and most productive colonies in the east; and, according to his estimation of it, he did not scruple to assert, that it would ultimately be an acquisition of infinitely greater importance to England than that of the Netherlands to France; and, if acquiesced in, should be reckoned as a full and ample compensation for them.

He added, "If you are masters of the Cape and Trincomale, we shall hold all our settlements in India, and the islands of France and Bourbon, entirely at the tenure of
your

your will and pleasure; they will be ours only as long as you choose we should retain them. You will be sole masters in India, and we shall be entirely dependent upon you." I repeated to him, that it was as a means of defence, not of offence, that these possessions would be insisted on; and that, if the matter was fairly and dispassionately discussed, he would find that they afforded us a great additional security, but no additional power of attack, even if we were disposed to disturb the peace of that part of the world. If these, and perhaps some few other not very material settlements belonging to the Dutch, were to be insisted upon, and if he would be pleased to enumerate all we should have to restore to them, while they had nothing to restore, to England, it was impossible not to consider the terms on which his majesty proposed peace to Holland as generous and liberal.

M. Delacroix was not at all disposed to agree with me on this point; and said, Holland, stripped of these possessions, would be ruined; he then held out, but as if the hint had just crossed his mind, the possibility of indemnifying the Dutch for their losses in India, by giving them a tract of territory towards the Meuse (I could not find out whether he meant Aix-la-Chapelle, Liege, or the countries of Juliers and Berg) and hinted, that if this was not to be done, an additional sugar island might, perhaps, be ceded to the Dutch republic. I told him all this might become a subject of future discussion; and I concluded, that if we could agree upon the most essential points, the treaty would not break off on those secondary considerations. Our conversation had now been extremely long, and M. Delacroix ended by saying, that, although he had ta-

ken upon himself to enter with me thus far upon the subject, yet I must not consider any thing he said as binding, or as pledging the republic, till such time as he had laid the papers I had given him before the directory; and, in order to do this with more accuracy, he again asked me, whether in his report he was to state the disuniting Belgium from France as a *sine qua non* from which his majesty would not depart? I replied, it most certainly was a *sine qua non* from which his majesty would not depart; and that any proposal which would leave the Netherlands annexed to France would be attended with much greater benefit to that power, and loss to the allies, than the present relative situation of the belligerent powers could entitle the French government to expect.

M. Delacroix repeated his concern at the peremptory way in which I made this assertion, and asked, whether it would admit of no modification? I replied, if France could, in a *contre-projet*, point out a practicable and adequate one, still keeping in view, that the Netherlands must not be French, or likely again to fall into the hands of France, such a proposal might certainly be taken into consideration.

M. Delacroix by no means encouraged me to explain myself more fully: he repeatedly said, that this difficulty relative to the Netherlands was one which could not be overcome.

Just as I was taking leave of him, he begged me to explain what was meant by the words in the memoir in the fourth paragraph, beginning, "de s'entendre mutuellement sur les moyens d'assurer," and ending at "leurs possessions respectives." I told him it referred to the destructive system adopted by France in the West-Indies, and went to express
a wish,

a wish, that the two powers should agree on some general and uniform system of internal police in the settlements there, which would contribute to the security of these possessions to the respective countries, and at the same time to the happiness of every description of inhabitants in them.

M. Delacroix, a little hurt at my expression relative to the system adopted by France, endeavored to recriminate on us; but he ended by saying, that they should certainly be willing to concur in any arrangement relative to the negroes, which did not militate against the principles of their constitution.

Here our conference ended; and, as, during the whole course of it, I bore in my mind the possibility, that, although this our first, might be the only favorable opportunity I should ever have of speaking on the general principles on which his majesty was disposed to treat, I endeavored, by advertising, more or less, to every point in my instructions, to enable M. Delacroix (if he report faithfully) to state to the directory what I said, in such a manner as to put it out of their power to misconceive what were his majesty's intentions, to remove all possibility of cavil on this case, and to bring them to a clear and distinct answer, whether they would agree to open a negociation on the principle of the *status ante bellum*, or on one differing from it only in form, not in substance. I hope in attempting to do this, I did not, in the first instance, commit myself, or discover more of my instructions than it became me to do, and

that in the conversation with M. Delacroix nothing escaped me which might, at some subsequent period, hurt the progress of the negociation. I have, I believe, given this conference nearly verbatim to your lordship; and I was particularly anxious to do this correctly and minutely, as well that you may judge on the propriety of what I said myself, as that what M. Delacroix said to me may be accurately known, and remain on record.

It must, however, be remembered (as I observed in the beginning of this dispatch) that he spoke from himself as minister indeed, but not under the immediate instructions of the directory; and this consideration will take a little away from the singularity of some of the positions he advanced.

I confess, my lord, from the civility of his manners and from his apparent readiness to discuss the subject, the impression which remained on my mind on leaving him was, that the negociation would go on, but be liable to so many difficulties, and some of them so nearly insurmountable that, knowing as I do the opinion of the directory, I saw little prospect of its terminating with success.

But I did not expect the conduct of the directory would immediately be such as to evince a manifest inclination, and even determination, to break off on the first proposals; and I was a little surprised at receiving, on Sunday, at three p. m. the inclosed letter from M. Delacroix: he sent it by the principle secretary of his department (M. Guirandet) who communicated

communicated to me the original of the arrêté of the directory, of which this letter, abating the alteration in the form, is a literal copy.

After perusing it, I asked M. Guirandet whether he was informed of its contents; and this led to a short conversation on them. I told him that both the demands were so unexpected that I could not reply to them off hand: that as to the first, it was quite unusual to sign memorials which were annexed to a note actually signed, and that I scarcely felt myself authorized to depart from what was, I believe, an invariable rule: that as to the second demand, made in so peremptory and unprecedented a way, I could without much hesitation say at once that it could not be complied with.—Mons. Guirandet lamented this much, and said, that this being the case, he feared our principles of negotiation would never coincide. I agreed with him in my expressions of concern. We conversed together afterwards for some time, but nothing passed at all worthy remark. I told him I should send my answer the next day. On reflecting more attentively on the request, that I would sign the two memorials which I had given in, it struck me that the complying with it pledged me to nothing; that it was merely gratifying them on a point insisted on peevishly, and that the doing it would put them still more in the wrong.

As to the strange demand of an ultimatum, it was perfectly clear what it became me to say, and I hope that in the inclosed

answer (which I sent yesterday morning, at twelve o'clock, to M. Delacroix) I shall be found to have adhered as closely as possible to the spirit of my instructions.

Yesterday evening, at half past nine, M. Guirandet brought me the note C. to which I immediately replied by the note D. they require no comment; and as I intend leaving Paris to-morrow, and travelling with all convenient speed, I shall so soon have it in my power to say the little which remains, relative to this sudden, though perhaps not unlooked-for close to my mission, that I need not trespass any further on your lordship's patience.

I have the honor to be, &c.

MALMSBURY.

P. S. I thought it would be proper for his majesty's minister at Vienna to receive the earliest intelligence of the negotiation being broken off; I therefore have dispatched a messenger to Vienna, with a copy of the several papers which have passed between me and Monsieur Delacroix since our conference, and also a succinct account of what passed on it.—The messenger left this place to-day at three P. M. M.

Right Hon. Lord Grenville,
&c. &c. &c.

*Manifesto of the British government
against France.*

The negotiation, which an anxious desire for the restoration of peace had induced his majesty to open at Paris, having been abruptly terminated by the French government, the king thinks it due to himself and to his people, to state in this public manner the circumstances

circumstances which have preceded and attended a transaction of so much importance to the general interests of Europe.

It is well known that early in the present year his majesty, laying aside the consideration of many circumstances of difficulty & discouragement, determined to take such steps as were best calculated to open the way for negotiation, if any corresponding desire prevailed on the part of his enemies. He directed an overture to be made in his name, by his minister in Switzerland, for the purpose of ascertaining the dispositions of the French government with respect to peace. The answer which he received in return was at once haughty and evasive; it affected to question the sincerity of those dispositions of which his majesty's conduct afforded so unequivocal a proof; it raised groundless objections to the mode of negotiation proposed by his majesty (that of a general congress, by which peace has so often been restored to Europe;) but it studiously passed over in silence his majesty's desire to learn what other mode would be preferred by France. It at the same time asserted a principle which was stated as an indispensable preliminary to all negotiation—a principle under which the terms of peace must have been regulated, not by the usual considerations of justice, policy, and reciprocal convenience; but by an implicit submission on the part of all the powers to a claim founded on the internal laws and separate constitution of France, as having full authority to supersede the treat-

ties entered into by independent states, to govern their interests, to controul their engagements, and to dispose of their dominions.

A pretension in itself so extravagant could in no instance have been admitted, or even listened to for a moment. Its application to the present case led to nothing less than that France should, as a preliminary to all discussion, retain nearly all her conquests, and those particularly in which his majesty was most concerned, both from the ties of interest, and the sacred obligations of treaties: that she should in like manner recover back all that had been conquered from her in every part of the world; and that she should be left at liberty to bring forward such further demands on all other points of negotiation, as such unqualified submission on the part of those with whom she treated could not fail to produce.

On such grounds as these it was sufficiently evident, that no negotiation could be established: neither did the answer of his majesty's enemies afford any opening for continuing the discussion, since the mode of negotiation offered by his majesty had been peremptorily rejected by them, and no other had been stated in which they were willing to concur.

His majesty was however not discouraged even by this result, from still pursuing such measures as appeared to him most conducive to the end of peace; and the wishes of his ally, the emperor corresponding with those which his majesty had manifested, sentiments of a similar tendency were expressed

expressed on the part of his imperial majesty at the time of opening the campaign; but the continuance of the same spirit and principles, on the part of the enemy, rendered this fresh overture equally unsuccessful.

While the government of France thus persisted in obstructing every measure that could even open the way to negotiation, no endeavour was omitted to mislead the public opinion throughout all Europe with respect to the real cause of the prolongation of the war, and to cast a doubt on those dispositions which could alone have dictated the steps taken by his majesty and his august ally.

In order to deprive his enemies of all possibility of subterfuge or evasion, and in the hope that a just sense of the continual calamities of war, and of the increasing distresses of France herself, might at length have led to more just & pacific dispositions, his majesty renewed in another form, and through the intervention of friendly powers, a proposal for opening negotiations for peace. The manner in which this intervention was received, indicated the most hostile dispositions towards Great-Britain, & at the same time afforded to all Europe a striking instance of that injurious & offensive conduct which is observed on the part of the French government towards all other countries. The repeated overtures made in his majesty's name were nevertheless of such nature, that it was at last found impossible to persist in the absolute rejection of them, without the direct and undisguised avowal of a determination to

refuse to Europe all hope of the restoration of tranquility. A channel was therefore at length indicated, through which the government of France professed itself willing to carry on a negociation, and a readiness was expressed (though in terms far remote from any spirit of conciliation) to receive a minister, authorized by his majesty, to proceed to Paris for that purpose.

Many circumstances might have been urged as affording powerful motives against adopting this suggestion, until the government of France had given some indication of a spirit better calculated to promote the success of such a mission, and to meet these advances on the part of Great-Britain. The king's desire for the restoration of general peace on just and honorable terms, his concern for the interests of his subjects, and his determination to leave his enemies no pretext for imputing to him the consequences of their own ambition, induced him to overlook every such consideration, and to take a step which these reasons alone could justify.

The repeated endeavours of the French government to defeat this mission in its outset, and to break off the intercourse thus opened, even before the first steps towards negociation could be taken; the indecent and injurious language employed with a view to irritate, the captious and frivolous objections raised for the purpose of obstructing the progress of the discussion; all these have sufficiently appeared from the official papers which passed on both sides, and which are known to all Europe.

But

But above all, the abrupt termination of the negotiation has afforded the most conclusive proof, that at no period of it, was any real wish for peace entertained on the part of the French government.

After repeated evasion and delay, that government had at length consented to establish, as the basis of the negotiation, a principle proposed by his majesty, liberal in its own nature, equitable towards his enemies, and calculated to provide for the interests of his allies, and of Europe. It had been agreed that compensation should be made to France, by proportionable restitutions from his majesty's conquests on that power, for those arrangements to which she should be called upon to consent, in order to satisfy the just pretensions of his allies, and to preserve the political balance of Europe. At the desire of the French government itself, memorials were presented, by his majesty's minister, which contained the outlines of the terms of peace, grounded on the basis so established, and in which his majesty proposed to carry, to the utmost possible extent, the application of a principle so equitable with respect to France, and so liberal on his majesty's part. The delivery of these papers was accompanied by a declaration expressly and repeatedly made, both verbally and in writing, that his majesty's minister was willing and prepared to enter with a spirit of conciliation and fairness, into the discussion of the different points there contained, or into that of any other proposal or scheme of peace which the French government might wish to substitute in its place.

X x

In reply to this communication, he received a demand, in form the most offensive, and in substance the most extravagant that perhaps ever was made, in the course of any negotiation. It was peremptorily required of him, that, in the very outset of the business, when no answer had been given by the French government to his first proposal, when he had not even learned, in any regular shape, the nature or extent of the objections to it, and much less received from that government any other offer or plan of peace, he should in twenty-four hours deliver in a statement of the final terms to which his court would in any case accede. A demand tending evidently to shut the door to all negotiation, to preclude all discussion, all explanation, all possibility of the amicable adjustment of points of difference. A demand in its nature preposterous, in its execution impracticable, since it is plain that no such ultimate resolution, respecting a general plan of peace, ever can be rationally formed, much less declared, without knowing what points are principally objected to by the enemy, and what facilities he may be willing to offer in return for concessions in those respects. Having declined compliance with this demand, and explained the reasons which rendered it inadmissible, but having, at the same time, expressly renewed the declaration of his readiness to enter into the discussion of the proposal he had conveyed, or of any other which might be communicated to him, the king's minister received no other answer than an abrupt command to quit Paris in forty-eight hours.

hours. If, in addition to such an insult, any further proof were necessary of the dispositions of those by whom it was offered, such proof would be abundantly supplied from the contents of the note in which this order was conveyed. The mode of negotiation on which the French government had itself insisted, is there rejected, and no practicable means left open for treating with effect. The basis of negotiation, so recently established, by mutual consent, is there disclaimed, and, in its room, a principle clearly inadmissible is re-asserted as the only ground on which France can consent to treat; the very same principle which had been brought forward in reply to his majesty's first overtures from Switzerland, which had then been rejected by his majesty, but which now appears never to have been, in fact, abandoned by the government of France, however inconsistent with that in which they had expressly agreed to treat.

It is therefore necessary that all Europe should understand, that the rupture of the negotiation at Paris, does not arise from the failure of any sincere attempt on the part of France, to reconcile, by fair discussion, the views and interests of the contending powers. Such a discussion has been repeatedly invited, and even solicited on the part of his majesty, but has been, in the first instance, and absolutely precluded in the act of the French government.

It arises exclusively from the determination of that government to reject all means of peace: a determination which appeared but

too strongly in all the preliminary discussions; which was clearly manifested in the demand of an ultimatum made in the very outset of the negotiation: but which is proved, beyond all possibility of doubt, by the obstinate adherence to a claim which never can be admitted: a claim that the construction which that government affects to put (though even in that respect unsupported by the fact) on the internal constitution of its own country, that it shall be received by all other nations as paramount to every known principle of public law in Europe, as superior to the obligations of treaties, to the ties of common interest, to the most pressing and urgent considerations of general security.

On such grounds it is that the French government has abruptly terminated a negotiation, which it commenced with reluctance, and conducted with every indication of a resolution to prevent its final success. On these motives it is, that the further effusion of blood, the continued calamities of war, the interruptions of peaceable and friendly intercourse among mankind, the prolonged distresses of Europe, and the accumulated miseries of France itself, are by the government of that country to be justified to the world.

His majesty, who had entered into the negotiation with good faith, who had suffered no impediment to prevent his prosecuting it with earnestness and sincerity, has now only to lament its abrupt termination; and to renew, in the face of all Europe, the solemn declaration, that, when-

ever

ever his enemies shall be disposed to enter on the work of a general pacification, in a spirit of conciliation and equity, nothing shall be wanting on his part to contribute to the accomplishment of that great object; with a view to which he has already offered such considerable sacrifices on his part, and which is now retarded only by the exorbitant pretensions of his enemies.

Paris, 5 Nivose, Dec. 25.

*Note on the dismissal of lord Malm-
bury: from the Redacteur of De-
cember 24.*

The numerous and brilliant successes of the arms of the republic have not shut the ears of the French to the voice of humanity. If they took up arms it was in their own defence; if they pursued their enemies beyond their own territory, it was for the purpose of forcing them to conclude a peace. Peace has been the constant object of their efforts and of their wishes, and it was already re-established with the most of the powers of the coalition on a happy and solid foundation when the English envoy was fastidiously announced.

There were a thousand grounds for distrusting the sincerity of this step in the English government. The perfidy of the means which it had employed against us; the troubles in the interior of France which it had excited; the false assignats with which it had inundated the country; La Vendee inflamed and supported in a state of insurrection; the traitors which it had hired; in fine, the generally recognized character of its en-

voy, for duplicity and intrigue, were all presumptions of its bad faith.

But eager to grasp at the hope of restoring peace to Europe, the directory cheerfully dismissed every suspicion; it rejoiced to think that the almost incredible successes of the army of Italy, that the trophies of glory gained by the army of the Rhine and Moselle in its memorable retreat, had at least opened the eyes of the British cabinet; it was forward in consenting to dispatch the passports demanded for the English envoy. Its decree for this purpose was dated on the 9th of last Vendemaire (Oct. 2.)

Lord Malmbury certainly did not feel the same eagerness; he did not arrive in Paris till the 2d Brumaire following (Oct. 25.)

His first overtures seemed to indicate an intention of rendering the negotiation almost interminable.

His powers were indefinite; he might have adopted whatever form of negotiation he thought proper: he might have begun it, therefore, with that frankness and that good faith which in the course of last year have enabled us to conclude so many treaties; he might have withheld every pretension which was insulting to the republic or inadmissible by its constitution, its laws and its treaties.

He might have proposed and discussed, without loss of time, sincere propositions, which would have been combated with the same frankness.

His conduct was quite the reverse. He had no power from the allies of England: he found

no person at Paris charged to stipulate for their interests; which placed him in a situation to act only in virtue of that part of his powers which authorized him to treat in the name of England.—He affected a wish to comprehend all the powers in the treaty, and declared in consequence that he thought it his duty to send couriers even to Russia.

To have the air, at the same time, of wishing to advance the negotiation, lord Malmesbury proposed the admission of a vague principle of proportional compensation, as the basis of discussion.

These procrastinations did not put a stop to the effusion of human blood; the directory lamented the delay; it testified its concern in the reply; nevertheless, as it was sincerely desirous of peace, it accepted every means that was proposed to expedite its arrival.

As to the principle of compensation, it did not contest it. This principle was of the essence of the negotiations into which they were to enter; the difficulties arose only from the application of the principle; it called therefore for this application; it asked of lord Malmesbury what were the objects of reciprocal compensation that he meant to propose.

This step was too rapid for his lordship's taste; he pretended to believe that the directory disputed his principle; his subsequent notes were more vague and complicated than his former; he affected to ask, by a note, whether the memorials transmitted to him, contained an answer to those which he had previously furnished; in fine, by

way of keeping up a climax in this temporising system, lord Malmesbury, though he was vested with full powers, replied to every word that was said to him, that he would refer it to his court, and each time he dispatched a courier.

The indecency of this game could not last long. The note of the 7th Frimaire (Nov. 27th) in which the minister for foreign affairs was charged to repeat the demand to lord Malmesbury, made upon his own principle, to specify without delay, and nominatively, the objects of reciprocal compensation which he meant to propose; this note made him feel that it was at last necessary that he should explain himself; and he promised to do it. Nevertheless, and still in spite of his full powers, he dispatched not only a courier, but one of the secretaries of his legation.

Twenty days more elapsed; as if lord Malmesbury was afraid that any one step of his proceedings should have the appearance of sincerity; the two memorials which he produced on the 27th and 29th Frimaire were without signatures.

On the report which was made to the directory upon these memorials; on the exposure of the overtures of lord Malmesbury, which left no possibility of discussion, since they proposed that the government should sign the disgrace of the republic; the directory gave his lordship notice to present his ultimatum in twenty-four hours and to sign it.

His lordship signed his two memorials. A slight perusal of their contents must fill all France with that

that indignation with which the directory must have read them, and demonstrate the necessity there was for dismissing the man who dared to propose them.

In these, England at once dictates the restitution to his majesty the emperor and king, of all his estates upon the footing of possession previous to the war.

Thus, the victorious French, the French who have shed their blood, and squandered their resources to repel an unjust aggression, were to retire shamefully within their territories, as if they had been vanquished. They were to support the weight and the expence of a war which they were obliged to maintain in defence of their liberty.

Thus in compliance with these demands too, although, by the text of the constitution, a treaty cannot stipulate any alienation of the territory of the republic, the directory was to restore the *ci-devant* Belgium. They were to sign with their own hand the instrument of their impeachment, by the violation of the social agreement which they were specially deputed to maintain!

Thus, those nations, who are connected with us, who have relied upon our friendship, upon our fidelity, were to be basely abandoned!

England next imperiously dissolves the treaties we have made with the greater number of the princes of Germany. In her eyes these treaties are of no value. It was only with his imperial majesty that France could have concluded them; it is upon his imperial majesty that the English

government is desirous of rendering that peace dependant which the republic has granted to those states of Germany who have detached themselves from the coalition.

The evacuation of Italy is next proposed by England; it would be necessary, therefore, to abandon also *ci-devant* Savoy, and the county of Nice; it would be necessary then to exercise towards their inhabitants the same perfidy as in the case of the ancient Belgians; and in order that the consequences of this mode of conduct should call down upon France the hatred of those who have seconded her arms with their good wishes, or by their means, in order that this baseness might for ever devote the republic to the execration of nations, England discharges her from the exercise of the power of interfering in the internal affairs of these countries, and by consequence of that, of warding off the vengeance which they already meditate against those who have shewn themselves friendly to our cause, who by their exertions have seconded the courage of the brave army of Italy, of those, in fine, who have assisted in preventing the massacre of our brothers in arms.

To these propositions, openly infamous, succeed clauses which a little more carefully conceal the ignominy with which the English government desires to overwhelm us.

The remainder in our next.

Domestic

Domestic Occurrences.

Bennington, (Verm.) Feb. 9.

On Thursday se'nnight, the dwelling-house of Mr. Francis Brackenridge, of Charlotte, was consumed by fire. The following melancholy particulars are related: Mr Brackenridge with his family retired very early to rest for the night; he was awakened from a short slumber, by a roaring which he at first conceived to be wind; a second thought struck him 'twas fire; he leaped from his bed and ran out at the front door of his house; seeing no fire in front, he walked with hasty steps to the back of his dwelling, when he discovered a log house contiguous to a new front he had just built, to be on fire. His first anxiety was for three children, who slept in a chamber of the log building; he made use of every expedient to rescue the children, which his great surprize, and the hurry of the moment, permitted him to try; in calling to rouse the children, he awaked some of his neighbours, who alarmed others, and hurried to his assistance, using every effort to relieve the children, but in vain—crisp'd was their tender flesh—bare whitened bones, promiscuously mingled, were their only remains, and they to the living seemed to say, in whispers softly sad,

"Time was, like thee, we life possest."

The eldest was a boy 15 years of age, the other two, a girl and boy, were between 8 and 9 years old. What adds poignancy to the sorrowful circumstance, is, the three children were given to them. Mr. and Mrs. Brackenridge, by account of the neighbours, were in perfect frenzy most of the time. Mr. Brackenridge, after the fire had a little subsided, came to himself, looked furiously around upon the

scattered remnants of his furniture, which his friends had saved from the ravage of the flames, and asked them if he had assisted in removing any part of it? They told him he had not; he replied he was very glad of it, and appeared more reconciled for a little time—he however, soon troubled himself with apprehensions that they exerted themselves too much to save his moveables from the fire, and thereby neglected some means to deliver the children.

Philadelphia, February 20.

On Friday last the house of representatives of this commonwealth waited on the President of the United States with the following address:

TO GEORGE WASHINGTON,
President of the United States.

The Address of the House of representatives of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, in general assembly met.

SIR,

When we contemplate the near approach of your retirement from public life, as announced to your fellow-citizens, in your address of the 17th September last, we should be wanting in duty to our own feelings, and those of our constituents, if we did not cordially embrace this last occasion, to join the grateful voice of the American nation in the acknowledgment of your long services and patriotic labours, in the achievement of our independence, and the establishment and maintenance of our peace, liberty and safety.

In the house where we now deliberate, its walls, if they had utterance, would testify for us, that they beheld you seated in our first congress, and, at their call, rising undaunted

undaunted, to lead our infant armies to victory or death, in the cause of liberty and our country; they beheld you again, after the issue of that perilous but auspicious combat, seated in the same house, and presiding eminently illustrious, among the illustrious band of statesmen and patriots, who framed the present happy constitution of the union: we forbear, sir, a detail of your services, as well before, as since the commencement of the revolution. Were we adequate to the task, it would fall more properly within the province of some future historian, who cannot be suspected of personal affection or public prejudice.

It is our present duty only to express our grateful sense of your general services. Prudent, firm and magnanimous in war, never despairing of the public safety in the worst of times, nor elated by success in the best; gloriously relinquishing your military character, when the great national purposes for which it was assumed, left you at liberty to seek your beloved retirement; and with equal glory quitting that retirement at the call of your country, to execute its councils, and command in time of peace, the faithful guardian and intelligent organ of its laws; maintaining its freedom, asserting its honor and independence, when at last, in your best judgment, without any abatement of love for your country, you conceived that the time was come, when you might be indulged in a final return to that retirement which your years and services merited, then bequeathing the fruits of your wisdom and experience in a farewell address, the maxims and precepts of which, we trust, will be regarded as the richest legacy of a father to his children and latest posterity. The same ardent

affection which leads us reluctantly to acquiesce in your approaching retirement, commands our fervent wishes that you may enjoy in this world the utmost felicity of your heart, in beholding the perpetual prosperity of your country, under a succession of a wise and virtuous statesman, and rulers animated by your example, and that when you are called from this world, you may be rewarded by the unbounded felicity of the world to come.

GEORGE LATIMER, *speaker.*

To which the President gave the following answer:

To the House of Representatives of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

GENTLEMEN,

The kindness of my fellow citizens has given me frequent occasion to make my acknowledgements for their expressions of confidence, attachment and affection; and for the honorable testimonies that my public cares and labours have been useful to my country.

With great satisfaction I receive your additional testimony, that as a public man I have not lived in vain.

Though now seeking that repose which retirement and the tranquil pursuit of rural affairs are calculated to afford, and which my time of life requires, the love of my country will indeed suffer no abatement: its safety and prosperity will be essential to the enjoyment of my remaining years. And I confide in the discernment and patriotism of my fellow citizens for the choice of wise and virtuous men who will successively administer every branch of the government in such manner as, under Divine Providence, to ensure the general happiness.

For

For your affectionate wishes for my present and future felicity, accept, gentlemen, my cordial thanks.

G. WASHINGTON.

CHARLESTON,

MARCH 18, 1797.

ARRIVALS.

March 9.—Brig Sukey, Thrauer, Havannah—consigned to Coffin—cargo consisting of 460 barrels, 1 hoghead sugar, 105 hogheads and 1 tierce molasses, oranges and logwood.

Schooner Liberty, Barnes, Baltimore—La Coste—433 barrels flour, 120 barrels bread.

Schooner Elizay Bacon, Boston—master—rum, pepper and lumber.

Ship Merchant, Fitzgerald, Liverpool—master—6500 bushels salt, goods and coals.

March 11.—Ship Britannia, Beale, Boston—master—lumber & staves.

Schooner Peregrine, Webb, New-York—master—43 hogheads rum, brandy and produce.

Ship Independence, Hallowell, Hayannah—Fitzsimons—508 barrels sugar.

Snow Betsey, Beale, Boston—master—40 bundles hay.

Brig Russell, Rogers, Georgetown—Hill—lumber and shingles.

March 12.—Schooner Industry, Messroon, Kingston—Hallett—75 tierces coffee.

Sloop Cleopatra, Tate, Havannah—Muir & Boyd—246 barrels sugar.

March 13.—Sloop Polly, Bythewood, Aux-Cayes—Schutt—58 hogheads, 7 barrels, 377 bags coffee, 11 bales cotton.

Sloop Mercury, Brown, Savannah—master—cotton, rice and lumber.

Brig Mary, Southwark, Boston

—Tilden—brandy, goods and produce.

March 14.—Schooner Mary, Barnes, New-London—master—mules and hay.

Schooner Liberty, Brown, Norfolk—master—15,00 bushels oats.

Schooner John, Blackler, Marblehead—master—produce & lumber.

March 15.—Schooner Nymph, Hill, Savannah—master—rice.

MARRIED.]—On Saturday the 11th instant, by the rev. Mr. Hammet, Mr. Samuel Guillon, to Mrs. Jane Russell, relict of George Russell, deceased, both of this city.

On Sunday the 12th, by the Rev. Mr. Frost, Mr. Paul Pritchard, to Miss Mary Geyer, both of this city.

DIED.]—At St. Helena, on Wednesday the 1st instant, captain John Tripp, aged 40 years.

On Saturday the 11th, Mrs. Ann Littlejohn, wife of Mr. Duncan Littlejohn, of this city, in the forty-fifth year of her age.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

“We disapprove not the piece signed ‘Alfred,’ either for sentiment or diction; but only for the author’s omission of distinguishing the ends of the paragraphs and periods, by pointing, and their beginnings by Capitals; which, in so difficult a hand, is absolutely necessary, and without which our young compositors are too much puzzled.”

“Some of our poetical correspondents will please, in future, to quote the book from whence they copy the pieces which they send for re-publication; particularly ‘Conrad,’ that we may no more be deceived by inserting, as original, verses which have before appeared in print. To others we beg leave to hint, that in the present state of correctness to which the art of versification is arrived, faults in measure, accent and rhyme, receive so little indulgence from the public, that no credit is to be obtained, either by the writer or editor of pieces thus defective. We are sorry to observe, that several communications, not void of merit in other respects, are rendered inadmissible by negligence in these points.”